

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04405 121249Z

43

ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 OES-05 L-03 DODE-00 CG-00

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USIA-15 PRS-01 /106 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WMO

SUBJECT: WMO/NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN STATION (NAOS) MEETING

JUNE 9-11

REF: GENEVA 4183

SUMMARY: REPRESENTATIVES OF 17 GOVERNMENTS TOOK PART IN WMO/NAOS MEETING AND, IN ABSENCE OF EXPECTED ENTRY INTO FORCE OF NAOS AGREEMENT

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JUNE 30, 1975, DECIDED OPERATE 4-STATION NAOS NETWORK ON PROVISIONAL BASIS BEGINNING JULY 1, 1975.

1. GOVERNMENTS WHICH WERE REPRESENTED AT NAOS CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARY DELEGATIONS (1974) MET AT WMO HEADQUARTERS JUNE 9-11 TO DECIDE ON ACTION TO CONTINUE OPERATIONS OF NAOS NETWORK UNDER WMO BEGINNING JULY 1, 1975. AS PROVIDED FOR IN ARTICLE 16, WMO/NAOS AGREEMENT OF 1974 ENTERS INTO FORCE WHEN GOVERNMENTS MAKING 80 PERCENT

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OF CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE RATIFIED AGREEMENT. AS OF MAY 31, 1975, ONLY

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04405 121249Z

20 PERCENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS WERE GUARANTEED BY SIGNATORY GOVERNMENTS.

2. HOWEVER, TOTAL OF 79.7 PERCENT SUPPORT AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF 58,000 POUNDS STERLING IS EXPECTED FROM 20 STATES AS RESULT OF SIGNING WITHOUT RESERVATIONS, SIGNING SUBSEQUENT TO RATIFICATION, SUBMISSION OF DECLARATION OF INTENT OR ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION OT ACCEDE TO THE AGREEMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE RECORD, MEETING WAS REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENTS WILL ADDECE TO THE AGREEMENT. NEVERTHELESS IT WAS CLEAR THAT AGREEMENT CANNOT COME INTO FORCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 16 BEFORE JULY 1976. CONSEQUENTLY, PRIMARY CONCERN OF THE MEETING WAS TO AGREE ON INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS TO PERMIT ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW 4-SATION NAOS NETWORK AS OF JULY 1, 1975, THUS AVOIDING BREAK IN CONTINUITY WITH EXISTING NETWORK OPERATING UNDER PRESENT ICAO/NAOS SCHEME.

4. GOVERNMENTS WHICH WILL BE OPERATING PARTIES UNDER NEW AGREEMENT (FRANCE, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWEDEN, UK AND USSR) ANNOUNCED WILLINGNESS TO START OPERATING THEIR VESSELS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREEMENT AND ITS ANNEXES AS FROM JULY 1, 1975. IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THESE OPERATIONS, OTHER PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS WERE REQUESTED TO MAKE A PROVISIONAL PAYMENT OCT. 1, 1975, AND SHOULD THE AGREEMENT NOT COME INTO FORCE BY 1ST MARCH 1976, A FURTHER PROVISIONAL PAYMENT ON APRIL 1, 1976. THESE PAYMENSTS WOULD BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCALE CONTAINED IN AGREEMENT, ANNEX III PARA 1(A), AND BE BASED ON ONE-THIRD OF COST FOR FIRST FINANCIAL YEAR AS SPECIFIED IN ANNEX III, PARA 5(B), THAT IS, POUNDS STERLING 5,944,500 FOR THE 18 MONTHS JULY 75 TO DECEMBER 1976.

5. THERE WAS GENERAL DISAPPOINTMENT THAT SOVIET UNION HAD NOT YET SIGNED THE AGREEMENT, BUT THEIR REPRESENTATIVE MADE CLEAR THEIR INTENTION NEVERTHELESS TO COMMENCE OPERATING STATION C ON JULY 1(52 DEGREES 45 MINUTES N, 35 DEGREES 30 MINUTES W). HE EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN OVER AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTIONS THAT USSR WOULD RECEIVE DURING INTERIM PERIOD, BUT THIS WAS NOT REGARDED AS SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM.

6. UNITED KINGDOM REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT UNDERTAKE REFURBISHING OF TWO OF THE FOUR VESSELS NOW IN USE  
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 04405 121249Z

UNDER ICAO NAOS PROGRAM UNTIL NEW AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO FORCE. IF THIS ACTION WERE SUBSTANTIALLY DELAYED, IT COULD PREJUDICE CONTINUITY OF PROGRAM UNDER NEW AGREEMENT, AS HE COULD NOT SAY HOW LONG UNREFURBISHED SHIPS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE SEAWORTHY.

7. IT WAS DECIDED THAT BOARD PROVIDED FOR UNDER AGREEMENT SHOULD TAKE UP AS ITS FIRST TASK REVIEW OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES FURING INTERIM PERIOD AND MAKE ANY NECESSARY

ADJUSTMENT IN LINE WITH PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT. OBVIOUSLY, THERE WILL BE A SHORTFALL IN CONTRIBUTIONS, AS AGREEMENT WILL COME INTO FORCE WHEN ONLY 80 PERCENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GUARANTEED. FURTHER IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HUNGARY, SPAIN AND POLAND WILL NOT BE ADHERENTS TO AGREEMENT

BUT WILL MAKE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. THE POSITION OS AUSTRIA IS STILL UNCLEAR.

8. MEETING ADOPTED TWO RESOLUTIONS, ONE DEALING WITH INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND THE OTHER URGES GOVERNMENTS TO ACT SPEEDILY WITH RESPECT TO AGREEMENT SO AS TO BRING IT INTO FORCE AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

9. AS IN EARLIER SESSIONS, DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED INFORMALLY HOPE THAT U.S. COULD TAKE PART IN NAOS PROGRAM IN NONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

10. THE SECRETARY GENERAL WAS URGED TO KEEP ALL PARTICIPANTS INFORMED OF THE STATUS OF THE AGREEMENT AND OTHER FACTORS AFFECTING THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE NETWORK. THE NEXT MEETING SHOULD BE THAT OF NAOS BOARD, AS SOON AS AGREEMENT ENTERS INTO FORCE. DALE

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